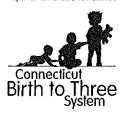


ICC Chair/Pediatrician Patrick Ruddy ICC Vice Chair Parent Mary Ann Dayton Fitzgerald Commission on the Deaf and Hearing Impaired Corinne Griffin Parent Laurel Ross Abilis Rita Esposito REACHOUT, Inc. Lynn Skene Johnson Dept. of Developmental Services Miriam Martinez Parent Stephen DeAngelis Insurance Dept. Tierny Giovanni, alternate Center for Excellence Cynthia Jackson Children's Therapy Services Rob Kelly, alternate State Senator Anthony Musto Robert LaCamera, M.D. American Academy of Pediatrics Miriam Martinez Parent Ginny Mahoney Dept. of Social Services Joe McLaughlin McLaughlin and Associates Deborah Pagano Lorna Qulias-Dilan Office of Protection and Advocacy John Reilly BESB Maria Synodi State Dept. of Education Louis Tallarita SDE-Homeless Children Rep. John W. Thompson State Representative



Dept. for Children and Families

Robin Tousey-Ayers Dept. of Public Health Myra Walnick Rehabilitation Associates, Inc.

Early Head Start Vacant

Parent

Senator Joseph J. Crisco, Co-Chair Representative Robert W. Megna, Co-Chair Senator Joan V. Hartley, Vice Chair Representative Susan M. Johnson, Vice Chair



Dear Chairs of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee:

On behalf of the State Interagency Coordinating Council, we are writing in support of Raised Bill #205; An Act Concerning Insurance Coverage for the Birth to Three Program.

This Bill addresses two critical issues for the Birth to Three Program:

- 1. The federal government requires maintaining a consistent level of state funding in order to capture federal funding, and
- 2. The Bill will now allow the state to count all Birth to Three insurance revenue toward the state funding of the Birth to Three program.

In light of the fact that the current biennial budget has already reduced state funding in anticipation of increased insurance revenue, this legislation will allow us to count those insurance revenues, thus avoiding a significant federal financial penalty.

We applaud your ongoing support of the Connecticut Birth to Three program and our efforts to provide quality early intervention for Connecticut families.

Mark Greenstein, M.D., Chair

Developmental Pediatrician and Geneticist